

Roher, Margie

From: Karen Goozner [kgoozner@starpower.net]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 4:33 PM
To: Joan Weber
Cc: 'Phil Alperson'; Elections, Board-Of; 'Woodside Forest List Serve'; 'Lew Winarsky'; 'Jim Burke'; Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Re: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

We strongly oppose the removal of our polling place to a further and less accessible location.

The purpose of the board of elections is to facilitate voting.

Sincerely,

Karen Goozner
9404 Pin Oak Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

On Nov 18, 2011, at 11:09 AM, Joan Weber wrote:

To the Board of Elections:

We support and second Phil Alperson's words below. We strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our community. As Phil said, our polling place has been moved several times and this move would place a burden on many of our neighbors and would inhibit their ability to vote. That is being done in many places in the country – but we would not expect that in our community. Please do not move our polling place. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Bruce and Joan Weber

Crestr! idge Drive

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

From: woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com [mailto:woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** Phil Alperson

11/18/2011

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:20 AM

To: elections@montgomerycountymd.gov; Woodside Forest List Serve; Lew Winarsky; Jim Burke

Cc: Councilmember.Ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov; George Leventhal; Councilmember.Floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov

Subject: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

! The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Phil Alperson

9404 Columbia Blvd.

Silver Spring, MD 20910

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11/18/2011

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11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Sara Silver [silvers8520@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:17 AM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Potential move of polling place for Woodside Forest neighborhood

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Sara Silver
9512 Clement Road
Silver Spring, MD

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Dorothy Britt [dsbritt@verizon.net]

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 11:50 AM

To: Elections, Board-Of; Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Elrich's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember

Subject: Please don't move polling place for 13-14 from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Dorothy S. Britt
9405 Pin Oak Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Thomas Lansworth [tomlansworth@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Proposed relocation of polling place

To the Board of Elections:

I just learned that you are considering moving the polling place serving my neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. I am writing to express my strong opposition to such a move.

In recent years, our polling place has been repeatedly moved. The location you are considering now is distant from our neighborhood and well removed from the precinct. Many voters in our neighborhood would not be able to walk that distance to vote. The proposed Argyle location is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even driving to the polls would be difficult during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes.

If the move from St. Luke's is unavoidable, I urge you to consider a walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters.
Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Thomas C. Lansworth
9405 Crosby Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Joan Weber [jrweber@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 11:09 AM
To: 'Phil Alperson'; Elections, Board-Of; 'Woodside Forest List Serve'; 'Lew Winarsky'; 'Jim Burke'
Cc: Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember
Subject: RE: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

We support and second Phil Alperson's words below. We strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our community. As Phil said, our polling place has been moved several times and this move would place a burden on many of our neighbors and would inhibit their ability to vote. That is being done in many places in the country – but we would not expect that in our community. Please do not move our polling place. Thank you.

Respectfully,
 Bruce and Joan Weber
 Crestridge Drive
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

From: woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com [mailto:woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** Phil Alperson
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:20 AM
To: elections@montgomerycountymd.gov; Woodside Forest List Serve; Lew Winarsky; Jim Burke
Cc: Councilmember.Ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov; George Leventhal; Councilmember.Floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov
Subject: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Phil Alperson
 9404 Columbia Blvd.
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

11/18/2011

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Roher, Margie

From: Celia Shapiro [gsheshaw@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:34 AM

To: Elections, Board-Of

Subject: polling place move

Don't do it! As a senior citizen living in Woodside Forest, I urge you not to move our polling place from our neighborhood to Argyle, which is not walkable and on the other side of the Beltway. Surely there is some location, walkable distance for Woodside residents, which could serve.

Celia Shapiro
Crosby Road

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: meyergerne@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:31 AM
To: phil.alperson@yahoo.com; Elections, Board-Of; woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com; lew20910@yahoo.com; jaburke@erols.com
Cc: Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Re: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

This is the first I've heard of this change, and I completely agree with Phil Alperson. Whoever has the power to stop this, please do so.

Gene Meyer

-----Original Message-----

From: Phil Alperson <phil.alperson@yahoo.com>
To: elections <elections@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Woodside Forest List Serve <woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com>; Lew Winarsky <lew20910@yahoo.com>; Jim Burke <jaburke@erols.com>
Cc: Councilmember.Ervin <Councilmember.Ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov>; George Leventhal <Councilmember.Leventhal@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Councilmember.Floreen <Councilmember.Floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov>; councilmember.riemer <councilmember.riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Sent: Fri, Nov 18, 2011 10:20 am
Subject: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Phil Alperson
9404 Columbia Blvd.
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Robert Oshel [robert.oshel@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:58 AM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: ATTN: Marjorie (Polling Place Change Comment)

This is written to request that the Board **NOT** merge the Woodside Park and Woodside Forest polling place, which has most recently been at St. Luke's Church into a polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center.

This change would be very inconvenient for the almost 2,000 voters who currently vote at St. Luke's (but who have repeatedly been moved from polling place to polling place after voting at Grace Church for many years). The proposed new location is not in or even near our precinct. Not only is it on the other side of the Beltway, it is also on the other side of Sligo Creek. This means that there are only two ways to get there by car and they involve either one of the most congested areas in Montgomery County on Georgia Avenue from before the Beltway to Forest Glen Road or making left turns onto and off of Colesville Road. Trying to drive to the proposed polling place during rush hours would be a challenge. In addition, the polling place would no longer be within walking distance, and in fact there are no sidewalks along part of Forest Glen Road leading to the polling place even if someone tried to walk. Public transportation to the site from our neighborhood is impractical. The net result of the change would likely be a lower turnout at the polls.

We are further dismayed at the proposed change since it would save so little money. If polling places have to be consolidated, the approximately 700 voters from the other area should be moved to St. Luke's, not the 2,000 St. Luke's voters moved to the Argyle site. Using the Argyle facility would save only \$500, the rent at St. Luke's. That is only **25 cents** for each voter who would be inconvenienced (or dissuaded from voting at all) by the proposed change. Surely the county can afford **25 cents** per voter! It will cost our voters much more than that in terms of time and gasoline to get to the new site to vote.

If the St. Luke's site is no longer available, the Board should consider moving our polling place back into our precinct at the former Grace Church site, which has been renovated and, I think, now meets accessibility requirements. Other possible locations, although not in our precinct, which would be much more accessible than the Argyle Recreation Center site are the Silver Spring Library and the Maryland-National Capitol Park and Planning Commission headquarters building. Either of these sites would be much more accessible to Woodside Park and Woodside Forest voters than a site on the other side of the Beltway and the other side of Sligo Creek.

Robert E. Oshel
9114 Crosby Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-585-0307

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Robin Siegel [pennyroyalnorwich@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:52 AM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember; Robin
Subject: Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. This (third or fourth?) move is to a distant location well removed from the precinct and is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Robin Siegel
1217 Clement Place
Woodside Park
Silver Spring 20910

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Phil Alperson [phil.alperson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:20 AM
To: Elections, Board-Of; Woodside Forest List Serve; Lew Winarsky; Jim Burke
Cc: Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Phil Alperson
9404 Columbia Blvd.
Silver Spring, MD 20910

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: B Ditzler [bditzler@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 1:33 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Opposition to moving polling place to Argyle Rec Ctr

Please find my civic association's objection to moving our polling place. The proposed move is well intentioned but has more disadvantages than benefits.

Brian Ditzler
President, Woodside Park Civic Association

11/18/2011



Woodside Park Civic Association

November 18, 2011

To: Montgomery County Board of Elections

The Woodside Park Civic Association strongly opposes moving the polling place serving most of our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters, would be preferable in a move to a public building, but we understand that is not possible since it is in Legislative District 20. That is a possibility in the future if we are moved from District 18 to 20 as a result of legislative redistricting.

A further objection to the proposed site is that we understand it is small and is unlikely to be able to accommodate the number of voting machines needed for almost 2,000 more voters. Compounding this problem is that there is no covered waiting area.

We believe it makes little sense to consolidate our polling place with any other. However, if polling places have to be consolidated, we find it unwarranted to move our 1,981 voters rather than moving the 755 voters currently at the Argyle site. Note that the savings from moving our voters would be only about 25 cents per voter! The costs to our voters in both time and money far outweighs the 25 cents in savings per voter to the county.

We urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site. In our opinion, doing so is not wise, would result in a reduced voting turnout, and would save only a small amount of money.

Sincerely,

Brian Ditzler,
President, Woodside Park Civic Association

Roher, Margie

From: Monica Greeley [monicagreeley@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 2:02 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Location of Polling Station

Dear Board of Elections,

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Monica N. Greeley
1213 Clement Place

11/18/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Lew [lew20910@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 3:13 PM
To: Joan Weber; 'Phil Alperson'; Elections, Board-Of; 'Woodside Forest List Serve'; 'Jim Burke'
Cc: Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Re: Woodside Park Don't move Precinct 13-14 To A Polling Place Far From Our Neighborhood

My wife and I join with our neighbors in vehemently objecting to the relocation of our polling place to a location substantially distant from our homes. We join in and concur in the numerous other reasons stated in opposition to this to this poorly considered change. Lewis and Susan Winarsky

From: Joan Weber <jrweber@comcast.net>
To: 'Phil Alperson' <phil.alperson@yahoo.com>; elections@montgomerycountymd.gov; 'Woodside Forest List Serve' <woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com>; 'Lew Winarsky' <lew20910@yahoo.com>; 'Jim Burke' <jaburke@erols.com>
Cc: Councilmember.Ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov; 'George Leventhal' <Councilmember.Leventhal@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Councilmember.Floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 11:09 AM
Subject: RE: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

We support and second Phil Alperson's words below. We strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our community. As Phil said, our polling place has been moved several times and this move would place a burden on many of our neighbors and would inhibit their ability to vote. That is being done in many places in the country – but we would not expect that in our community. Please do not move our polling place. Thank you.

Respectfully,
 Bruce and Joan Weber
 Crestridge Drive
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

From: woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com [mailto:woodsideforest@yahoogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** Phil Alperson
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 10:20 AM
To: elections@montgomerycountymd.gov; Woodside Forest List Serve; Lew Winarsky; Jim Burke
Cc: Councilmember.Ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov; George Leventhal; Councilmember.Floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov
Subject: [woodsideforest] Please don't move Precinct 13-14 Polling Place far from our neighborhood

To the Board of Elections:

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

11/18/2011

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Phil Alperson
9404 Columbia Blvd.
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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11/18/2011

MEMORANDUM

November 18, 2011

TO: Mary Ann Keeffe

FROM: Christine Rzeszut, Operations Manager

SUBJECT: Statement Received from Mr. Brian Kildee

Today Mr. Kildee called to inquire about the Redistricting Review process. He expressed concern that the general voting public and the citizens of Montgomery County were not included in the notification of the Hearing. Mr. Kildee stated that "the average voter" should have been included in the distribution and each precinct population should have been informed of the Hearing well in advance of the scheduled date. The time frame allowed for the public to arrange comment was too short in his opinion. He said, "The citizens of Montgomery County have not been well served."

He felt that this proceeding was "not in the spirit of Montgomery County." He expressed that any major change involving voter representation needs the attention of the whole population and inferred that the Board of Elections was not in compliance with regulations regarding public forums. It was stated that, he felt, the Board of Elections holds the responsibility of informing the public of changes to districting and precinct configuration.

The process of redistricting and the timeline were discussed briefly. An offer was made to add his name to the list of individuals wishing to present testimony or a suggestion to email comment was also proposed. Again, the factor of time concerned him and he did not accept either opportunity to testify.

The conversation ended with his statement that he would try to attend Saturday's Redistricting Review process and he was assured that his concerns would be passed to the Board before testimony.

Respectfully submitted for your information.

Roher, Margie

From: brenda freeman [brenda_freeman2002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2011 7:04 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Ervin's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Change of Polling Place

To Whom It May Concern:

I am continually baffled by the shabby treatment of the Woodside Park neighborhood by Montgomery County.

Changing the polling place from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center can be only to suppress voter participation.

The Argyle Center is too far from the Woodside community to be considered a realist option for Woodside Park's residents.

The location would require voters to drive longer distances since the public transportation options are limited. This location would make it more inconvenient for those residents who work, i.e. most of us. And it would make it difficult for people like me who walk to the polling place before or after work.

Nor does the proposal make sense, if the intention is, as it is claimed to save, the County money.

I doubt that saving money is the issue since the County wastes thousand of dollars each year on "feasibility studies" and tax breaks to developers.

There are many options in our neighborhood which could better serve the voting public than the Argyle location, including the using the Park and Planning Office on Georgia Avenue or biting the bullet and paying the small fee to Grade Episcopal Church or St. Luke's to maintain convenient, accessible polling places for our neighborhood. If I can think of better options, why can't you?

Brenda Freeman
1220 Dale Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

11/21/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Elly Shaw-Belblidia [mirinor@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:20 AM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: daniel.c.adcock@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Montgomery County Redistricting Plan/ATTENTION MARY ANN KEEFFE

Dear Mary Ann,

I didn't hear anything from you about this and I probably did not have your correct email when I cc'd you on Friday. So below I am re-sending a message to the "elections" email that I wrote on Friday.

As you can see, I am disturbed at the lack of timely communication from the Board of Elections about the new precinct lines. I did talk on Friday to Sara Harris but all I heard from her is that the time frame is so short that things have to happen like this. I understand that in part, but why in the world could the Board of Elections not at least give people a heads-up, let us know that you don't have the specifics ready, but plan for a public meeting with, for example, two weeks notice?

I know from experience that the Board of Elections employees cannot always know the best way to draw precinct lines. Some years ago my precinct, 09-27 (Rachel Carson Elementary School) was the largest in the county. I was a precinct chair back then, I heard rumblings about it, but then all of a sudden the lines were drawn without any notice. The new lines didn't make sense for our community, and we protested to the Board of Elections, but the staff said it was too late to change for the next election. We had to wait until the following election cycle to make reasonable adjustments.

Thank you for your attention,
 Elly Shaw-Belblidia
 MCDCC at-large member, resident of District 17

-----Original Message-----

From: Elly Shaw-Belblidia <mirinor@aol.com>
To: brian.mckevitt <brian.mckevitt@montgomerycountymd.gov>; maryann_keeffe <maryann_keeffe@yahoo.com>
Cc: daniel.c.adcock <daniel.c.adcock@gmail.com>
Sent: Fri, Nov 18, 2011 8:56 am
Subject: Fwd: Montgomery County Redistricting Plan

Dear Mr. McKevitt - I just received yesterday a message that you sent to the Montgomery County Democrats on Wednesday (11/16), regarding a meeting on Saturday (11/19). The same message includes an attachment with a vast amount of information about changes in precincts. I am writing to complain about this poor lack of communication and planning.

I live in District 17 and am an at-large member of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. Some months ago I received notice about potential changes in D17, which noted possible merging of two precincts in Rockville. I notified our precinct volunteers in those two precincts and waited to hear follow up.

Now, the attached guidelines, are altogether different from that earlier notice. All the changes concern 6 precincts in Gaithersburg (one proposed for elimination).

I am not judging the redistricting proposals - in the end they are probably fair and necessary. What I object to is hearing about this just days before the meeting. I cannot attend because I have to work. I doubt that the affected precinct volunteers can attend, either.

Why did the Board of Elections wait until the last minute to notify us?

11/22/2011

Thank you for your time.
Elly Shaw-Belblidia
340 Tschiffely Square Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

301 216 9549 home
301 529 9951 cell

-----Original Message-----

From: Montgomery Democrat <montgomerydems@msn.com>
To: Ann Matko <a.matko@att.net>; Almina k <alminak@aol.com>; Chris Bradbury <chris@chris-bradbury.com>; Charlotte Crutchfield <crutchfield2@comcast.net>; Dan Adcock <daniel.c.adcock@gmail.com>; Darrell Anderson <darrellanderson01@comcast.net>; Arthur Edmunds <edlearth@aol.com>; Marie Wallace <emmabel01@verizon.net>; francine Towbridge <ftowbridge92@gmail.com>; Gabe Albornoz <galborno1976@yahoo.com>; harold diamond <handddiamond@hotmail.com>; Hoan Dang <hoan@hoandang.com>; jawilliams99d <jawilliams99d@gmail.com>; Jonathan Prutow <jonathan.prutow@gmail.com>; Karla Walker <karladwalker@msn.com>; legalrun <legalrun@aol.com>; Marjorie Goldman <mgmagoo@aol.com>; mirinor <mirinor@aol.com>; mkorman <mkorman@gmail.com>; Oscar Ramirez <oscar_t_ramirez@yahoo.com>; pamela_queen4107 <pamela_queen4107@comcast.net>; Simon Atlas <satlas2005@comcast.net>; Sharon Bland <sbland_esq@hotmail.com>; Sandy Raymond <slraymond1@comcast.net>; Vivian Malloy <vivmalloy@aol.com>; vweissberg <vweissberg@starpower.net>; Venattia Vann <vwvann@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Nov 17, 2011 10:51 am
Subject: FW: Montgomery County Redistricting Plan

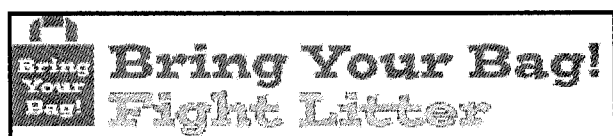
In case you did not receive the attached reports from the Montgomery Cty Bd of Elections (MCBE), you can open them to see the proposed precinct boundary modifications and polling place assignments expected to take place for the 2012 election. The proposed modifications are those designed by the MCBE.

A public hearing will take place **THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the MCBE offices at 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg 20879. Read the letter for instructions to participate.**

Si

Subject: Montgomery County Redistricting Plan
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 2011 11:19:06 -0500
From: Brian.McKevitt@montgomerycountymd.gov
To: montgomerydems@msn.com

Please see attachment regarding Montgomery County Board of Elections proposed redistricting changes.



11/22/2011

Rohr, Margie

From: adina gewirtz [adinadanny@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 3:31 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: change to polling place

Dear All,

As a resident of Woodside Park, I strongly object to the proposed elimination of a polling place in the neighborhood. The change suggested -- a polling place outside of the immediate neighborhood -- would pose a significant hardship for those of us in the area.

Adina Gewirtz
Burton Street

11/23/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Ramona Matthews [rhmatthews@terpalum.umd.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 5:41 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Polling place changes

I live on Midwood Road, 20910, and my polling place, once Calvary Lutheran, lately St. Luke's, is scheduled for closing. I have liked being within walking distance to vote. I think asking people to go over a mile on foot (often in bad weather) is a bit daunting for some seniors, and forcing us to drive helps degrade the environment. I'm all for saving rent money, so what's wrong with the Silver Spring library? Failing that, the new County building is only a bit farther away. It would be a shame to discourage voting by making access more difficult.

--Ramona Matthews

Roher, Margie

From: Leventhal's Office, Councilmember
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 12:07 PM
To: 'Monica Greeley'
Cc: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: RE: Location of Polling Station

Dear Ms. Greeley:

Thank you for your message regarding the relocation of precinct 13-14's polling place. I'm sympathetic to the situation you and your neighbors find yourselves in of having your polling place repeatedly moved over the course of several years. I am copying the Board of Elections on this email so they can have the benefit of your views on this issue. It is helpful to know of your opposition to the proposed polling place change.

Best regards,
George Leventhal
Montgomery County Councilmember

-----Original Message-----

From: Monica Greeley [mailto:monicagreeley@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 1:59 PM
To: Leventhal's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Location of Polling Station

Dear Council Member,

I strongly oppose moving the polling place serving our neighborhood from St. Luke's Church to the Argyle Recreation Center. Our polling place has been repeatedly moved in recent years. The next proposed move to a distant location well removed from the precinct is unwarranted.

The proposed Argyle location is not only unwalkable for our voters but is on the other side of both the Beltway and Sligo Creek from our neighborhood. Even reaching the polls by automobile would be inconvenient during rush hours because of routine traffic backups and turn restrictions on the only two possible routes. Public transportation would be virtually impossible. A walkable location, such as the Park and Planning Commission headquarters would be preferable if the location cannot remain at St. Luke's Church or be returned to its longtime site within our neighborhood at Grace Church.

I urge you to not consolidate our polling place at the Argyle site.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Monica N. Greeley
1213 Clement Place

11/23/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Lolson2999@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2011 8:56 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: TOK polling place

The Town of Kensington Town Hall has served as the place to vote for at least the period of time I have lived in Kensington, which is 22 years. Voting is as much a responsibility as it is a social event and we know those in line as well as those handing out ballots. The Town of Kensington is a unique entity which is constantly challenged by divisive high speed traffic patterns and uncharacteristic development objectives but the unique charm and quality of the Town of Kensington prevails. It is therefore disappointing to learn that another challenge is being thrown our way - that of dividing the town when they vote. We are a small entity and in the big picture, everything possible should be done to encourage communities such as Kensington. Creating different polling places for a community such as the Town of Kensington does not support that agenda and I would hope an alternative would be developed so the current polling place at the Town Hall continues to be the place where all town residents would go to vote.

Leslie Olson
Wheatley Street

11/30/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Barbara Scharman [bjmscharman@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 12:25 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Town of Kensington Polling Place

Dear Board of Elections,

I am requesting that you maintain the Town Hall/Armory in Kensington as the polling place for elections in the future. It is the most convenient and easiest place for town residents and has been the one polling place as far back as many of us can remember.

It seems like there should be a way to accommodate whatever district changes for the various offices have taken place, and whatever ballots or software need to be put at town hall in order to have this as the one polling place.

Thank you.

Barbara Scharman
3707 Dupont Avenue
Kensington

12/1/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Wendy Brown [wbrowns@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 6:36 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Fwd: [woodsideforest] Fw: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

Please count me as another supporter of the position voiced by my neighbor Phil Alperson. If you need to combine our polling place, please combine us with a voting location that is easily reachable from our neighborhood.

wendy brown
 9417 Russell Rd
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Phil Alperson <phil.alperson@yahoo.com>
To: "elections@montgomerycountymd.gov" <elections@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Sent: Saturday, December 3, 2011 1:54 PM
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though I do not support eliminating our precinct, I understand and appreciate the budget crisis that is driving this proposal and am not contesting it. Rather, I am more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new "home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely manner. I respectfully propose that precinct 13-14 be merged with precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other shops and amenities that make us a Community.

12/5/2011

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration

Phil Alperein
9404 Columbia Bouoervard
Silver Spring MD 20910

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12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Elaine [sealane88@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 2:37 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Election Voting Place

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other shops and amenities that make us a Community.

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elaine Cafritz
9421 Crosby Rd.
Silver Spring, MD.20910

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Phil Alperson [phil.alperson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 1:55 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though I do not support eliminating our precinct, I understand and appreciate the budget crisis that is driving this proposal and am not contesting it. Rather, I am more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new "home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely manner. I respectfully propose that precinct 13-14 be merged with precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other amenities that makes us a COMMUNITY.

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration

Phil Alperson
9404 Columbia Bouoervard
Silver Spring MD 20910

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Fig Ruggieri [figrugg@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 11:17 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Phil Alperson
Subject: Please Keep Precinct 13/14 Open

Dear Board of Elections,

Please keep open our current polling place for precinct 13/14. I am deeply concerned that distance and the inconvenience of getting to a new election polling place will discourage many voters from voting at a time when the opinions of ALL voters should be heard and their votes facilitated.

As important as it is to seek economies during the ongoing recession, it is even more important to facilitate and encourage all to voice their opinions by voting at a polling place that is as easy and convenient to access as possible.

As a taxpayer, voter, and former election judge at precinct 13/14, I cannot emphasize how strongly I believe in the necessity of keeping polling places truly "local" to the community they serve. There is nothing so wonderful to see as democracy in action, i.e., when hundreds of voters come out and vote!

I implore you to please keep our local polling place for precinct 13/14 open.

Sincerely,

Fig Ruggieri (registered as Ellen V. Ruggieri)
9019 Woodland Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910
figrugg@yahoo.com

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Lisa Otterström [lisaotterstrom@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 10:23 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Alan Gregerman
Subject: Fwd: [WPCA] Proposed Elimination of Precinct 13-14 and Merging with North Woodside Instead of Argyle

Subject: Proposed Elimination of Precinct 13-14 and Merging with North Woodside Instead of Argyle

Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though we do not support eliminating our precinct, We understand and appreciate the budget crisis that is driving this proposal and are not contesting it. Rather, We are more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new "home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely manner. We respectfully support the proposal by our neighbor Phil Alperon that precinct 13-14 be merged with precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during

12/5/2011

rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other shops and amenities that make us a Community.

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Otterstrom RNC-OB, MSN and Dr. Alan Gregerman

1210 Woodside Parkway

Silver Spring MD 20910

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12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Ramona Matthews [rhmatthews@terpalum.umd.edu]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 10:14 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Proposed Elimination of Precinct 13-14 and Merging with North Woodside Instead of Argyle

>To the Board of Elections:

>

>The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate
>precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate
>it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation
>Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though I do not support
>eliminating our precinct, I understand and appreciate the budget
>crisis that is driving this proposal and am not contesting
>it. Rather, I am more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new
>"home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a
>losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely
>manner. I respectfully propose that precinct 13-14 be merged with
>precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

>

>While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common
>border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not
>connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy
>connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or
>convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not
>realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area,
>especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into
>their otherwise busy workday schedule.

>There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen
>Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access
>the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive
>north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an
>arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place
>from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale
>Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek
>Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in
>this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

>

>The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining
>Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin
>Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors
>to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is
>our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park,
>houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other
>shops and amenities that make us a Community.

>

>Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66,

>and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Ramona Matthews
9214 Midwood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910-1647

Roher, Margie

From: Dianne Tencer [dianne.tencer@starpower.net]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 8:02 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place
Importance: High

Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though I do not support eliminating our precinct, I understand and appreciate the budget crisis that is driving this proposal and am not contesting it. Rather, I am more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new "home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely manner. I respectfully propose that precinct 13-14 be merged with precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour or in the morning rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other shops and amenities that make us a Community.

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration
Shelton Skolnick
1304 Dale Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Erin Seigel [seigelek@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 6:30 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14

Dear Board,

Please keep our current polling place open. I am concerned that distance and travel will discourage voting at a time when the opinions of all voters should be encouraged and their votes facilitated.

I am certain you seek economies during this extremely stressful recession. However, it is most important during this time to facilitate a most complete public voice during the election process.

As a tax payer and a voter, I think this is an important use of public funds.

Please keep investing in local, polling places.

Sincerely,

Erin Burgess
1419 Crestridge Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: sharondooley@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 5:17 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Sharon Kay Dooley
Subject: Election Voting Changes

Sharon Dooley
18649 Clovercrest Circle
Olney MD 20832
301-260-8569
Sharondooley@comcast.net
December 4, 2011

To whom it may concern:
Montgomery County Board of Elections:
Sent by Email:

I am writing to voice my dismay at the voting choices and changes which have been made in the State of MD, Montgomery County and in my local district.

I live in Olney and reside in precinct 8-11. I have lived in Olney since 2000. During that time I have seen my Congressional District change from District 8 to District 4 and now find it redistricted once again into Congressional District 3 - which means I be represented by a Congress person from Baltimore. During this time my state legislative district has changed from 14A to District 14. The council district lines in Olney were changed in 2000 and now have been changed again, currently moving my neighborhood into District 4 to District 2. My individual precinct was divided into 2 precincts in 2008, creating 8-13.

Lately Maryland and Montgomery County have opened many regional voting centers in order to facilitate early voting; absentee ballots have been given out without restrictions in many cases, college students and military members were encouraged to also apply. These are all positive steps. They are, however, in my opinion contrary to the moves on the redistricting front where voters are - at least in my area - thought not to need constancy in representation by local representatives. How can voters be adequately engaged with a constantly moving cast of candidates? How can they expect adequate knowledge of their areas when they need to re-orient staff to pertinent issues every few years?

Now I know I am not your typical voter - in fact since moving to this county more than 35 years ago, I do not think I have missed an election. I have volunteered for candidates from the President to the school board and all offices in between. I have been a candidate myself for the County Council and have served as a Democratic precinct official and area coordinator - I know my County and my precincts. I am not the person you should be concerned about - I will be a knowledgeable voter on election day. No - I am concerned about the occasional voter, who does not vote in special elections or in

12/5/2011

primaries, but likes their local Congressional person or Council member and is unsure when this name is no longer on the ballot. I have had voters tell me they could not find my name on the ballot - as they did not realize where the council district boundaries were and thought since they lived in Olney they could vote for me. Voters need education.

These changes will further dislocate such voters and further remove them from being the informed voters we all would like them to be. I am aware that there is little chance that the poor decisions made this year will be over turned; I just sincerely hope that they do not keep voters home in what will be a crucial election in 2012. I urge that the average voter and not just political jockeying be considered in any future district changes. I would urge you to ensure that adequate notice is sent to all voters in Maryland, so all have an opportunity to study candidates and issues prior to arriving at the polls.

Thank you for consideration of this testimony.
Sincerely,
Sharon Dooley

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Karen Goozner [kgoozner@starpower.net]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 2:00 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Phil Alperson; Woodside Forest Forest
Subject: PLease keep Woodside Forest's Current Polling Place Open

Dear Board,

Please keep our current polling place open. I am concerned that distance and travel will discourage voting at a time when the opinions of all voters should be encouraged and their votes facilitated.

I am certain you seek economies during this extremely stressful recession. However, it is most important during this time to facilitate a most complete public voice during the election process.

As a tax payer and a voter, I think this is an important use of public funds.

Please keep investing in local, polling places.

Sincerely,

Karen Goozner
9404 Pin Oak Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Roher, Margie

From: Rebecca Howland [rebecca.howland@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 1:12 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Please Merge Precinct 13-14 with 13-07 -- NOT with 13-66

Dear Board of Elections:

I understand that the Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest & Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road.

While my strong preference is to keep 13-14 in tact, I do sympathize with the County's budget crisis.

If 13-14 must be eliminated, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE merge us with 13-07 (Woodside/North Woodside) -- NOT 13-66 (Argyle). Woodlin Elementary School is our neighborhood ES, so why wouldn't we vote there? It is our community. Argyle is not our community.

A quick glance at a map is misleading -- 13-14 appears to be adjacent to 13-66, but there are severe transportation breaks between the two jurisdictions. Sligo Creek cuts off the neighborhoods and there are only two ways to get there. Fight the busy intersection at Georgia & Forest Glen -- still one of the most congested intersections in the County. Or make the difficult left turn from Colesville onto Sligo Creek Pkwy. That is a 1-2 car light for those turning left.

We have an aging population in WP/WF who rely on "runners" volunteers who drive the seniors to and from the polling place. This difficult transportation break will reduce the number of trips made and disenfranchise our citizens.

Again, if you must close 13-14, please merge us with 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca Howland
9500 Crosby Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-608-3162 (home)

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Chris Rutledge [crnkar@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 12:36 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though I do not support eliminating our precinct, I understand and appreciate the budget crisis that is driving this proposal and am not contesting it. Rather, I am more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new "home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely manner. I respectfully propose that precinct 13-14 be merged with precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other shops and amenities that make us a Community.

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration

12/5/2011

Chris Rutledge
9409 Pin Oak Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Eileen Finnegan [finnegan20903@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 2:02 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: Jamin Raskin; Ervin's Office, Councilmember
Subject: Precinct Changes: 05-07

Dear President Keeffe,

The Hillandale Citizens Association represents approximately 1300 homes in various subdivisions along New Hampshire Avenue. We have historically had two neighborhood precincts, 05-07 (voting at the National Labor College) and 05-03 (voting at Francis Scott Key Middle School). Attached is a map showing our membership area.

With the pending elimination of 05-07, please give consideration to having the residential area south of the Federal Research Center land holdings become part of 05-03. Doing this would join our association area into one precinct voting at Key. This provides for a "natural precinct" with neighbors and friends participating in the voting process and party precinct work together. Furthermore, voting would be close to home and easier to reach than Jackson Road Elementary School.

I recognize that sizing a polling place is an important consideration. According to the December 2011 monthly figures, 05-07 has 1,166 registered voters (assuming all voters are south of the federal land holdings) and 05-03 has 2,131 registered voters for a combined total of 3,297. Given the necessity of adding approximately 1,515 voters from 05-14, the grand total for the combined new 05-03 would be 4,812. This would be a large precinct, but manageable in the brand new Key MS facility.

Thank you for giving consideration to joining the two Hillandale precincts into one. Thank you.

Regards,
Eileen Finnegan, President
Hillandale Citizens Association

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This is a detailed street map of the Hillandale neighborhood in Washington, D.C. The map shows a grid of streets with house numbers, including Kinloch Rd, Blackbriar St, Sweetbriar Rd, and Hampshire Road. Key landmarks such as the Army Laboratory Center, Federal Research Center, National Labor College, and Hillandale Forest are labeled. A dashed line indicates the boundary of the Hillandale neighborhood. A north arrow is located in the upper left corner.

Roher, Margie

From: ejnippard@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 1:58 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of polling place

Importance: High

To the Board of Elections:

The Montgomery County, Maryland Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate Precinct 13-14 which includes Woodside Forest and Woodside Park. My understanding is that this elimination would move the polling place to a recreation center known as "Argyle Recreation Center" located on Forest Glen Road. My review of the map shows that this proposed new polling place removes the polling place from nearby public transportation.

I have resided in Woodside Park for over two decades and plan to live there several more. As I no longer drive, I rely on walking, buses, friends and family members to move around the county. The elimination of Precinct 13-14 and proposed relocation would most likely eliminate me from the active voting process.

I respectfully urge the Board to reconsider the proposed elimination.

E. Josephine Nippard
1108 Highland Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Roher, Margie

From: jrweber@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 12:09 PM
To: Elections, Board-Of
Cc: woodsideforest
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

As folks who have lived and voted in Woodside Forest for many years, we are writing to say that we do not accept your proposal to consolidate our precinct 13-14 with precinct 13-66 at all. However, if a consolidation has to happen, we support Phil's approach. We are very clear that any move of our polling station as has been proposed by the Board of Elections would represent a major obstacle for many of our neighbors to get to vote and in this very difficult time it is critical to make it easier (not more difficult) for ALL voters, younger, older and working voters - to get to the polls and vote.

Closing and moving our precinct will make voting access more difficult for many and will discourage some from attempting to vote at all. At least, the Woodlin School is familiar and more accessible to our neighborhood and should be the location.

However, to be clear, we need to understand why (what is the financial saving?) that our polling place has to be closed at all? On what basis was our polling place selected to be consolidated into another? Why was that precinct not selected to be consolidated into ours - even though for voters in that precinct, I'm not advocating that particularly. (I would really appreciate a reply to this question or information as to how I can find that out.)

What is the price (and value) of a stable and accessible voting opportunity in America these days?

Joan and Bruce Weber
 1443 Crestridge Drive
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20190

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Phil Alperson <phil.alperson@yahoo.com>
To: "elections@montgomerycountymd.gov" <elections@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Sent: Saturday, December 3, 2011 1:54 PM
Subject: Proposed elimination of Precinct 13-14 and relocation of its polling place

To the Board of Elections:

The Board of Elections is considering a proposal to eliminate precinct 13-14 (Woodside Forest and Woodside Park) and consolidate it with Precinct 13-66 at its polling place at the Argyle Recreation Center on Forest Glen Road. Even though I do not support eliminating our precinct, I understand and appreciate the budget crisis that is driving this proposal and am not contesting it. Rather, I am more concerned that the choice of 13-66 as our new "home" could cause many voters to stay at home rather than fight a losing battle to get to and from the polls in a reasonably timely manner. I respectfully

12/5/2011

propose that precinct 13-14 be merged with precinct 13-07 which is located directly to our west across Georgia Avenue.

While any map shows that precincts 13-14 and 13-66 share a common border (Sligo Creek), the fact is that the precincts are not connected and "you cannot get there from here." There is no easy connection between 13-14 and 13-66. There is no direct or convenient mass transit to Argyle Recreation Center, and it is not realistically walkable from any part of the Woodside area, especially when people have to accommodate a trek to the polls into their otherwise busy workday schedule.

There are only two road crossings over Sligo Creek -- Forest Glen Road from the north and Colesville Road from the south. To access the polling place from Forest Glen Road, we would have to drive north on Georgia Avenue and clash with a Beltway interchange -- an arduous task in the evening rush hour. To access the polling place from Colesville Road, we would have to make a left turn from Dale Drive onto Colesville and make another left turn onto Sligo Creek Parkway, and we all know that making a left turn almost anywhere in this region during rush hour is a difficult and time-consuming task.

The fact is Precinct 13-14 is oriented to the adjoining Woodside/North Woodside 13-07 precinct that votes at Woodlin Elementary School. Election day is a rare opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize as they wait to cast their votes. Woodlin is our neighborhood school and the neighborhood has our local park, houses of worship, grocery store, cleaners, drug store and other shops and amenities that make us a Community.

Please reconsider the proposal to merge precinct 13-14 into 13-66, and consider instead merging us with precinct 13-07.

Thank you for your consideration

Phil Alperein
9404 Columbia Bouoervard
Silver Spring MD 20910

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12/5/2011

Roher, Margie

From: Phil Alperson [phil.alperson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 6:27 AM
To: Fig Ruggieri; Elections, Board-Of
Subject: Re: Please Keep Precinct 13/14 Open

Thanka

From: Fig Ruggieri <figrugg@yahoo.com>;
To: <elections@montgomerycountymd.gov>;
Cc: Phil Alperson <phil.alperson@yahoo.com>;
Subject: Please Keep Precinct 13/14 Open
Sent: Mon, Dec 5, 2011 4:16:36 AM

Dear Board of Elections,

Please keep open our current polling place for precinct 13/14. I am deeply concerned that distance and the inconvenience of getting to a new election polling place will discourage many voters from voting at a time when the opinions of ALL voters should be heard and their votes facilitated.

As important as it is to seek economies during the ongoing recession, it is even more important to facilitate and encourage all to voice their opinions by voting at a polling place that is as easy and convenient to access as possible.

As a taxpayer, voter, and former election judge at precinct 13/14, I cannot emphasize how strongly I believe in the necessity of keeping polling places truly "local" to the community they serve. There is nothing so wonderful to see as democracy in action, i.e., when hundreds of voters come out and vote!

I implore you to please keep our local polling place for precinct 13/14 open.

Sincerely,

Fig Ruggieri (registered as Ellen V. Ruggieri)
9019 Woodland Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910
figrugg@yahoo.com

12/5/2011